(c) Electricity is a concurrent subject. However, supply and distribution of electricity in a State is the responsibility of the State Government/State Power utility concerned. Government of India has tried to supplement the efforts of the State by way of capacity addition through Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs), maximisation of energy generation from existing central generating stations, maximisation in export of power from surplus regions and strengthening/augmentation of sub-transmission and distribution system by providing funds under the APDRP. Simhadri Thermal Power Plant (2X500 MW) which is dedicated to A.P., has been commissioned in the recent past by National Thermal Power Corporation. Recently Talcher-Kolar HVDC bipole (200 MW) has been commisioned by POWERGRID which has facilitated additional power flow from Eastern Region to Southern Region of which A.P. is also a beneficiary.

Generation of power from natural gas and coal

1492. SHRI S.M. LAL JAN BASHA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is too much emphasis on power to be generated from natural gas;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that there is ample scope to generate power from coal;

(c) what are the reasons for ignoring the potential of coal in the country for power generation;

(d) whether vested interests are against use of coal; and

(e) steps proposed to give more emphasis to power generation from easily available coal in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATIJAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) The question do not arise.